

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAJ-01 /073 W

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R 140715Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1038

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR FR IT CZ

SUBJECT: FRENCH-CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST TIES

1. CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN RUDE PRAVO SEPT 13 REPORTED ON INSIDE NEWS PAGE THAT TRADITIONAL FETE DE L'HUMANITE IN PARIS SUBURBS OVER THE WEEKEND WAS MARKED BY "GREAT INTEREST IN THE RUDE PRAVO PAVILION." ACCORDING TO RUDE PRAVO, WHICH SENT A DELEGATION LED BY FIRST DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ZDENEK HORENI, THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR WAS DEDICATED TO "SPORT AND ITS INFLUENCE ON DEVELOPMENT OF MAN," AND EIGHT CZECHOSLOVAK OLYMPIC ATHLETES TOOK PART. "THOUSANDS" OF VISITORS REPORTEDLY INSPECTED THE RUDE PRAVO PAVILION, WHERE THEY "COULD FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE SUCCESSES AND LIFE OF SOCIALIST CZECHOSLOVAKIA." THE FESTIVITIES CULMINATED, ACCORDING TO RUDE PRAVO, IN SPEECH BY PCF POLITBURO MEMBER G. PLISSONIER.

2. COMMENT: RUDE PRAVO'S COVERAGE OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN FETE DE L'HUMANITE, THOUGH MODEST, STANDS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO ITS SHARP SEPT 3 ATTACK ON PCI ORGAN L'UNITA. WE UNDERSTAND RUDE PRAVO WAS CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FROM SIMILAR FESTIVAL SPONSORED BY THE ITALIAN PAPER RECENTLY. WHILE EIGHT-YEAR OLD FEUD WITH ITALIAN COMMUNISTS HAS TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE.

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WE EXPECT CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS WITH FRENCH COMMUNISTS TO

REMAIN REASONABLY FRIENDLY.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, PRESS COMMENTS, COMMUNISTS, INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRAGUE02649
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760346-0070
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760962/aaaacbea.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH-CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST TIES
TAGS: PFOR, FR, IT, CZ
To: PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006